

PATRIOT

439TH AIRLIFT WING • AIR FORCE RESERVE • WESTOVER AFB

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Wing completes full year, looks ahead to '96

Year in review

by SSgt. Christine Mora

At home and around the world, Westover made a name for itself in 1995.

It was a year marked by a base face-lift and missions spanning the spectrum and the globe, and from the looks of things, we'll be keeping this pace for a while.

"This past year has really been a transitional year," said wing commander Col. James P. Czekanski. "We concentrated on upgrading the quality of our base and processes, continued our participation in worldwide missions and solidified our role as the northeast training center."

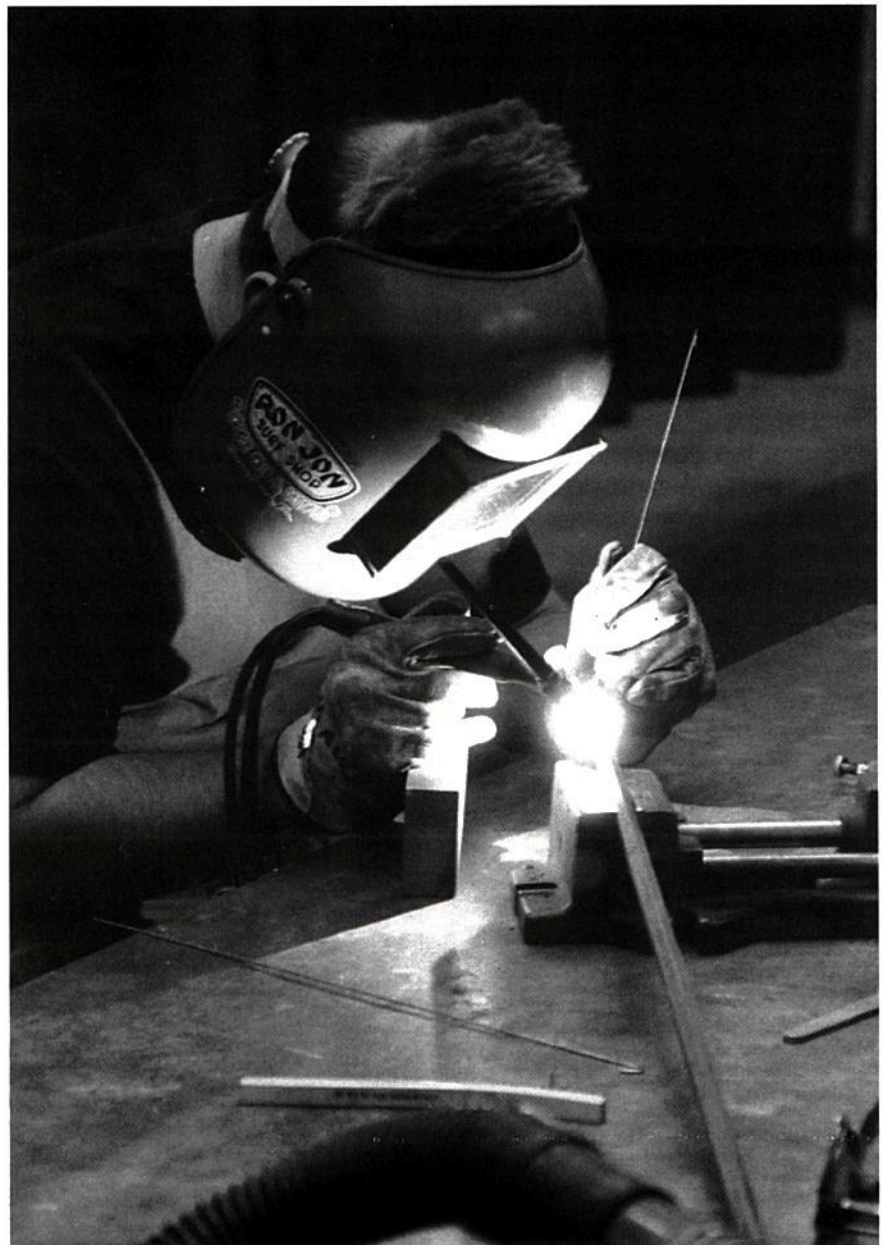
The post-Desert Storm plan to expand Westover into the northeast training center moved forward as thousands used the base for military and civilian exercises. In response to increasing demands, Westover embarked on a construction and renovation plan designed to bring the base into the 21st century.

"Our goal is to upgrade all our facilities to a standard that shows people we are dedicated to being a first-rate, world-class training and work environment," Czekanski said.

One of the most significant projects impacting Westover's role as an AFRES training site is the construction of a high-tech conference center, slated to be completed in late spring.

"The conference center will be capable of supporting 140 people in conference, while simultaneously hosting 240 in an auditorium," he said. "We envision Westover becoming the AFRES training

continued on page 9



SSgt. Paul Mantikoski

LIGHT DUTY — SSgt. Douglas Shvonski, aircraft metal technology journeyman, uses tungsten inert gas (TIG) welding to complete a specialized wrench. (See article on pages 6 and 7)

Medical awards dubbed "Westover show"

by MSgt. Sandi Michon

It was dubbed "the Westover luncheon," when the AFRES medical awards were distributed in Anaheim, Calif. last month.

Westover medical staff captured nine out of 18 possible awards, and at one point during the presentation, six consecutive awards were given.

Some felt awkward from all the praise, others cheered to keep it coming. (See award list on page 10.)

In addition to the seven individual awards, and two unit awards, Westover attendees were a visible, vital part of the medical convention held Oct. 29 - Nov. 3. Personnel from the 439th Medical Squadron created and presented nearly the entire curriculum for the medical service corps section of the convention.

"It was wild. Our training sessions were packed out. When people from Westover shared their skills, they wanted to hear what we had to say," said Maj. Bob Sousa, health services administrator. "We are still getting requests for copies of our presentations."

The third act in Westover's show was Team Yankee, Westover's tri-service medical training program that serves as a model to the nation. MSgt. Mark Gilyard, 439th MDS medical service superintendent, who spearheads Team Yankee at Westover, helped with the presentation.

Fifty-seven members from Westover medical units attended the AMSUS (Association of Military Surgeons of the United States) convention which embraces all federal health care workers. More than 4,000 people attended the convention which showcases all aspects of health care through symposiums and workshops.

Maj. Dave Zamorski, 439th AES operations officer, has attended the AMSUS convention for 10 years. "I've never seen anything like it. The presentations were great, and it was wonderful to applaud our people before such a large audience of our peers," he said.

Capt. Mike Wagner, a new troop with the 439th AES, was impressed. "I learned a lot. I saw great presentations from senior leadership down to junior NCOs. It gave me goose bumps to see so many Westover people honored," he said.

Turkey trot

The format for this year's annual Turkey Trot, held on the Nov. UTA, was changed to a family "fun run," in order to encourage family participation and fitness, according to Jim Kelly, recreation services supervisor. For the first year, times were not recorded and turkeys were awarded by raffle at the end of the day.



PATRIOT

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Wing welcomes Mendoza as executive officer

by Capt. Mike Franco

Maj. Maynard "Max" Mendoza is the new wing executive officer.

Formerly an operations officer for the 439th Security Police Squadron, Mendoza served the past 12 years directing security and law enforcement programs for Air Force installations all over the world. He separated from active duty in 1992 after nine years, and joined the Reserve program in 1993.

The new job is challenging, Mendoza admits, as he now manages situations that affect the entire wing. Success hinges on stepping back and looking at the big picture, not getting mired in details, he said. Manning, budget, and protocol are among Mendoza's new responsibilities.

As a former cop, skills in problem solving, management and public relations are qualities he brings to his new job.

Mendoza knows how to seek out, and make use of the experts around him.

"I enjoy interacting with people in other sections and learning about their jobs," he said.

People also look to him for guidance on all kinds of issues. He also has a high regard for the Air Force organization to get the job done.

The son of an army career man, he learned to adapt to new environments at an early age, living in various locations

throughout the Pacific. Born in Fort Wainright, Alaska, Mendoza graduated from high school in Wahiawa, Hawaii.

Mendoza received his commission through the Reserve Officer Training Corps upon earning a bachelor of arts in Psychology from the University of Hawaii Honolulu in 1983. He also has a masters of science in educational leadership from Troy State University, Ala.



Maj. Maynard "Max" Mendoza

His assignments include Cannon AFB, N.M., Florennes Air Base, Belgium, Malmstrom AFB, Mont., Clark AB, Republic of the Philippines, Hickam AFB, Hawaii, and Bergstrom AFB, Texas. While at Clark in 1991, Mendoza was a key player in response to the Mount Pinatubo volcanic eruption. They evacuated more than 20,000 dependents and military personnel from the air base and nearby area.

"It rained dirt and ash, and communist guerillas of the New Peoples' Army threw stones at our passing caravan," said Mendoza. At Clark's closing ceremonies, he was present when the American Flag was lowered for the last time.

Mendoza was awarded the Security Police Officer of the Year for 1991. He was also chosen many times to compete with the "best of the best" security police forces from active duty, the Reserve and the Australian and Canadian military at the Peace Keeper Challenge competition held at Kirkland AFB, N.M.

Mendoza is married to Sandra (Vargas) of Brooklyn, N.Y. They have two children, Jonathan, 5, and Cherly, 3.

Col. Grote eyes challenge as LG commander

by MSgt. Tom Allocco

The 439th Logistics Group has a new commander who says her biggest challenge will be to help her troops build on the outstanding reputation they have earned throughout the Air Force.

Col. Beth Grote, who formerly served as logistics group commander for an Oregon rescue wing, took the Westover job in September. She succeeds Col. Harold Lawrence, who assumed command of the 403rd logistics squadron at Keesler AFB, Miss. in July.

Grote brings to the job experience as logistics group commander of the 939th

Rescue Wing, which flies HC-130 tankers and HH60G Blackhawks out of Portland Air National Guard Base.

"I am excited about being here," Grote said. "The 939th is a tenant unit, so coming here to Westover, the biggest Air Force Reserve base in the country, I face the challenge of supply, transportation, contracting and more."

"The C-5 is a very challenging plane and the people at Westover have an excellent reputation throughout the system. There are a lot of talented people here and, together, I look forward to continuing that reputation," she said.

Grote was commissioned as an air-

craft maintenance officer in 1972 after graduating from Purdue University in her home state of Indiana. During five years of active duty she served briefly at Hanscom Field and Travis AFB, Calif.

In 1977, she entered the Air Force Reserve as a maintenance officer at Mather AFB, Sacramento. Later, she served as an ART deputy commander for maintenance at the 304th Air Rescue and Recovery Squadron in Portland.

As commander of the 439th LG, Grote is responsible for the three maintenance squadrons, as well as 439th LSS, Supply, Transportation and Contracting.



SSgt. Vin Blanchard



SSgt. Vin Blanchard

Down with the old

Demolition cranes and crews raze buildings that gave the base long and distinguished service. Above and at left, the former USAF Regional Hospital, located on property now owned by the city of Chicopee, was taken down. The land will be used to attract industrial businesses. Below, one of two metal mobility buildings, located adjacent to the north ramp, tumbles to the ground.



SSgt. Christine Mora

Three top performers win quarterly honors

by MSgt. Tom Allocco

Exceptional performance of their jobs earned SMSgt. Claire Gaudreau, SSgt. Euclid Ritchens and SrA. Laura Dulude honors as top Wing airman, NCO and senior NCO of the quarter respectively.

The three were selected by the Wing Enlisted Awards committee, chaired by Maj. Maynard Mendoza, wing executive officer, as top in their field during the first quarter of fiscal year 1996.

Gaudreau, 439th Logistics Support Squadron supply management superintendent, has been a Westover reservist for 18 years. From 1988 to 1992 she served as acting first sergeant of the Mobility Support Flight, predecessor unit of the 439th LSS. She was on active duty for 13 months during Desert Shield/Desert Storm. She has also been an active member of the Enlisted Dining Out Committee, including serving as chairman and treasurer.

A resident of Chicopee, Gaudreau is employed as a senior disability claims examiner for Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company.

Ritchens, NCO of the Quarter, has been at Westover for three years as a

439th Mission Support Squadron information management technician. Before coming here he served more than 10 years on active duty, including five years in Europe where he earned the Air Force Commendation Medal.

Ritchens has organized publications forms and files in Westover squadrons and units at Roslyn, Hanscom and Griffiss AFB.

He resides in East Hartford and is employed by Connecticut's Division of Special Revenue.

Dulude was named Airman of the Quarter for her initiative as nondestructive inspection specialist in the 439th

Equipment Maintenance Squadron.

As a senior airman, Dulude developed set-up and verification procedures for inspections which have been nationally embraced and adopted by other Air Force units.

Dulude was part of the six-member 439th EMS contingent which was named Best Overall Team in the Teamwork Expo which brought together area businesses and base organizations to share ideas about quality and continuous improvement.

She is an ART in the 439th EMS and resides in Feeding Hills, Mass.

Benefits possible despite shortened career

If you have served for 15 or more years, you may have earned retirement benefits, even if your career is cut short by a physical disability, according to new Air Force Reserve policy.

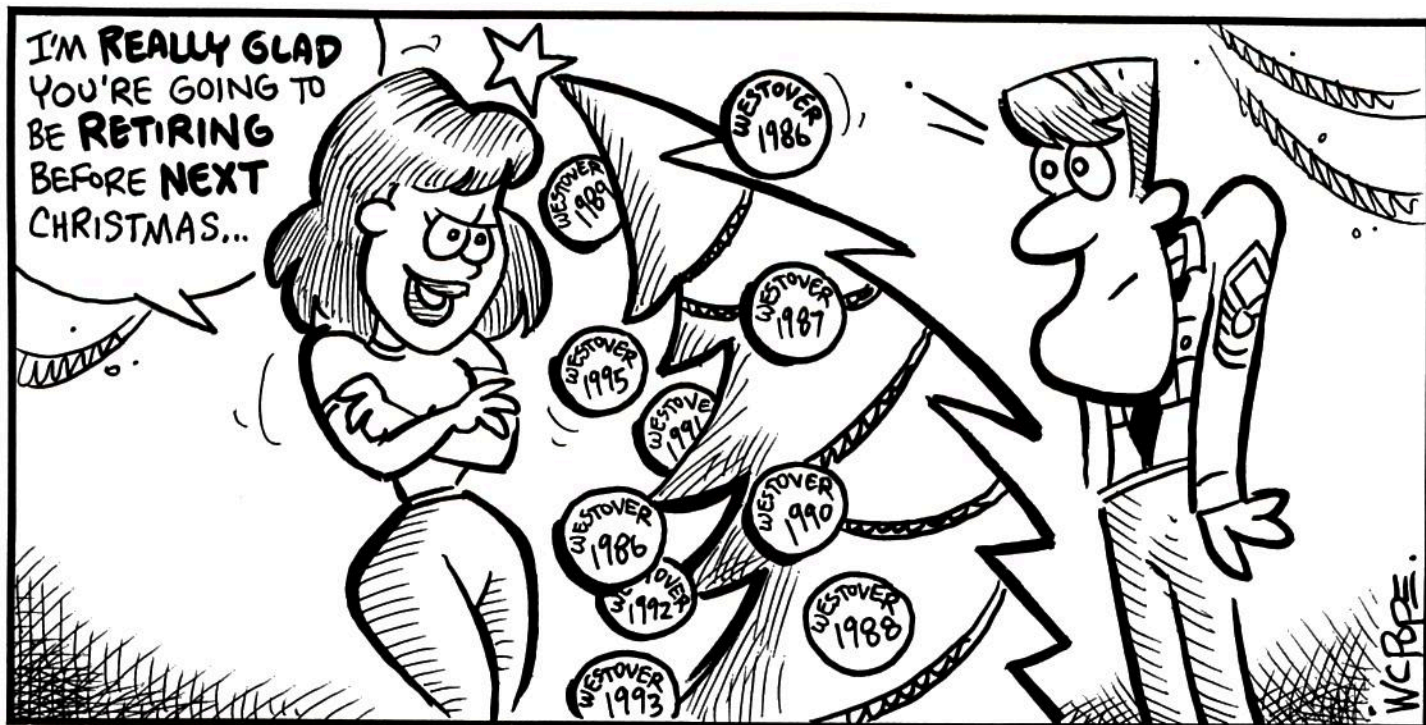
A physical disability may cut your reserve career short, but it doesn't have to wipe out your retirement benefits, according to the Reserve policy.

If you have at least 15 years, but less than 20 years and suffer a physical disability, you may be eligible to transfer to

the Retired Reserve instead of an administrative discharge.

Those in the Retired Reserve may qualify for retired pay at age 60. In the past, a reservist with less than 20 years who had a physical disqualification that was not the result of military service was not entitled to retired pay.

The policy change took effect on Oct. 5 and is not retroactive. The new policy will remain until Sept. 30, 1999.



Machine shop offers pride, craftsmanship

Article by Capt. Mike Franco

Photos by SSgt. Paul Mantikoski

Tools... Technology... Talent... Unmistakable attributes in Westover's seven-man machine shop.

It takes no less to support the manufacture, fabrication and repair of components for the wing's 16 C-5s and associated equipment.

"The shop runs itself," according to MSgt. Richard Anderson, B-Team supervisor and metals technology craftsman. He praised the expertise and can-do attitude of it's five full-and two part-time machinists.

The crew brings their skills from civilian jobs ranging from Smith & Wesson to Harvard University R&D, and from active-duty service where they worked on a variety of aircraft from jet fighters to heavies.

Materials fabrication here has advanced in "leaps and bounds" over the last decade, Anderson said. The driving factor was the conversion from the C-130 to the C-5, a much more complex aircraft. The shop incurred about an 85 percent turn-over of equipment during this period.

"Equipment modernization brought the shop out of the '60s and into the '90s," he said.

They acquired several state-of-the-art CNC (computer numerical controlled) machines which automate many of their processes, said TSgt. Edward J. Greenwood, one of the shop's veteran machinists.

They perform machining operations including milling, turning (lathe work), grinding and sawing, Greenwood said. This enables them to work on just about every component of the aircraft, and to form unfinished raw material into precisely shaped and dimensional parts.

The shop works primarily with aerospace materials like aluminum, titanium and various stainless steels taking into consideration characteristics critical to flight such as weight, strength and corrosion resistance.

"We save time and money when we make our own parts," he said. In most



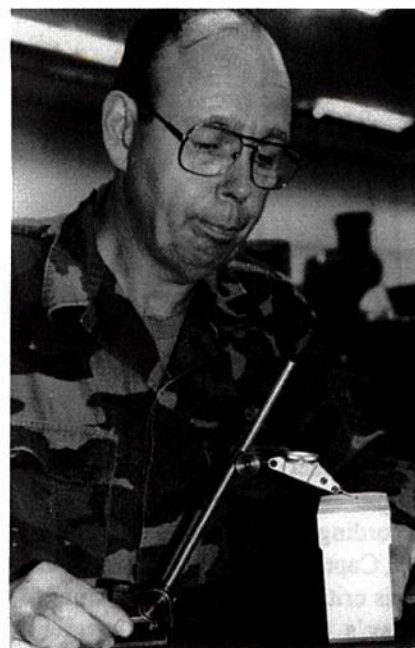
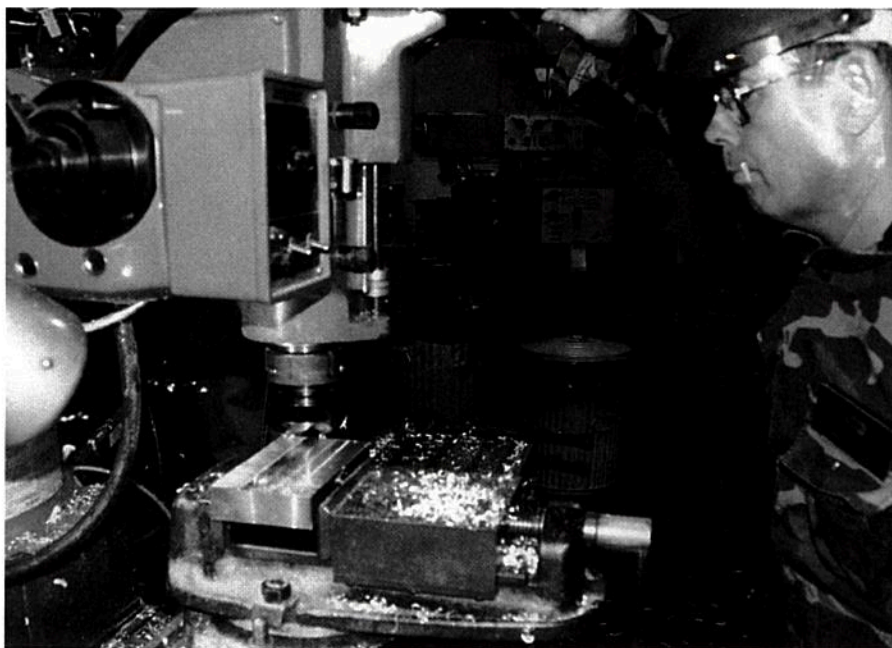
FIREWORKS -- SSgt. Stephen Burek, aircraft metals technology journeyman, uses a portable hand saw to cut a standard wrench to length before it gets welded.

cases, it costs more and takes more time to order parts through the Air Force supply system.

The breadth of their abilities shows that metal fabrication is not only a science but an art form. Take for instance SSgt. Doug J. Shvonski's specialty as the

shop's resident welder. With ten years experience, he would be the first to tell you that welding is about 90 percent technique and 10 percent procedure.

The machine shop works very closely with other maintenance sections such as sheet metal and NDI (non-destructive in-



Start to finish

Starting the process, (at top left) TSgt. Edward Greenwood, aircraft metals technology craftsman, uses the milling machine to size a block of aluminum that will become a bracket for the C-5 cargo compartment. He then measures the specification of the new part to make sure it is exactly like the old part it is replacing. And finally, at right, Greenwood installs the completed bracket on the C-5



spection), where parts are checked for structural integrity and serviceability, said SSgt. Stephen E. Burek, an air reserve technician with the shop. They also help make non-aircraft related parts for units around the base including the clinic, photo lab and dining facility.

"People increasingly rely on us because of our expanding capabilities," Anderson said.

Anderson has the good fortune of supervising a highly trained, stable work force that enjoys their work.

"That makes my job easier," he said.



HIGH-TECH SUPPORT – SSgt. Stephen Burek loads the set-up information into the computerized milling machine for exact job specifications.

College Fair

by MSgt. Sandi Michon

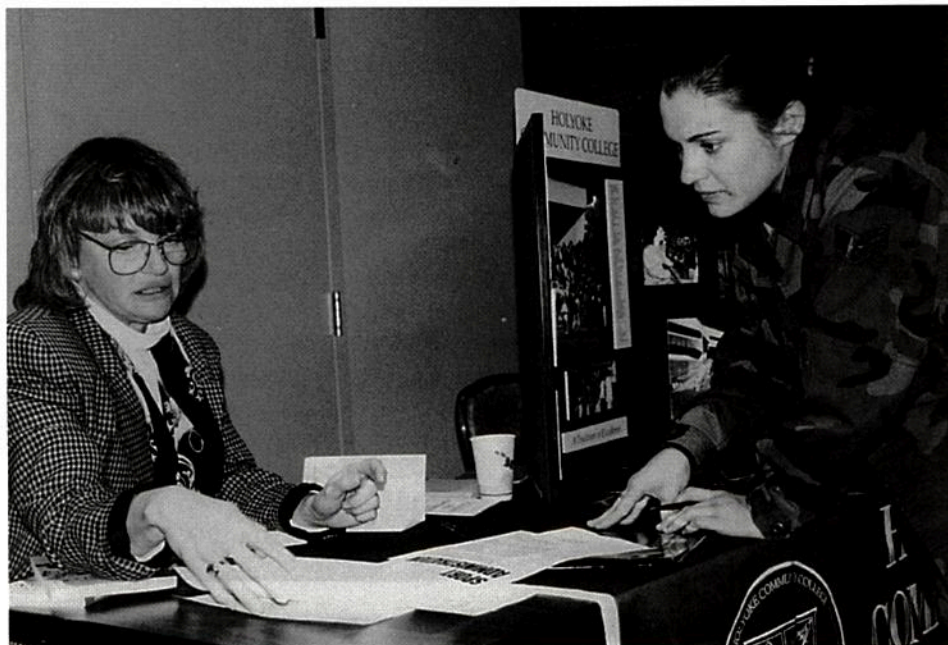
More than 11 area colleges participated in the second annual college fair held at the Club on Nov. 4.

The Education and Training office hosted the educational clearinghouse as a service to reservists interested in higher education.

According to Education and Training Officer, Capt. Tom Schwechheimer, education is critical to maintaining an edge in today's downsizing environment. "The colleges like supporting our reservists, and the college fair puts comprehensive information under one roof," he said.

West Point, University of Mass. ROTC, as well as Veteran's Administration staff answered questions about military programs and financial aid.

SSgt. Obioma Nna, 58th APS technician, has an engineering degree, but wants a master's degree in information management. "I found out new information about VA financial aid at the college fair. I am also looking into Western New



MSgt. Sandi Michon

HIGHER LEARNING — SrA. Carey-Ann Patterson, 58th APS air transportation specialist, speaks with Fern Winkel, admissions office representative with Holyoke Community College in November.

England College for possible courses, so it was good to talk to a representative and get a course catalog," he said.

Westover's education office has seen a steady increase in traffic as more reservists take advantage of educational opportunities through the Community College of the Air Force, military aid,

and other college options.

"We're here to serve the reservists, and plan to hold the college fair each year," Schwechheimer said.

The college fair was organized by Schwechheimer and his staff, and SMSgt. Kristine Seney, training chief.

Base publications to go on E-mail server

by SSgt. Christine Mora

The Air Force Reserve has tamed the paper tiger once again.

Reservists and civilian employees can now call up standard publications on their computer screens. This process should eliminate the need for paper publications by the end of 1996.

The new electronic publishing system, available on the reserve's Wide Area Network, is the result of a five-year project to make publications retrieval easier and to make paper disappear from the workplace.

"We wanted to consolidate all standard, unclassified Air Force, AFRES, and applicable gaining command publications into one InfoBase," said Bill Jones, chief of publications, headquarters, AFRES Directorate of Information Management. "This should eliminate the need to continually post them."

Jones said that by placing the publications on a network computer server, they can be retrieved with relative ease and all applicable publications can be viewed at the same time.

The new process eliminates the need for paper publications and the custodians in various offices to maintain them, because new or revised publications are posted electronically as soon as

they are completed.

The system is called the Air Force Reserve Publications Library or InfoBase, and is maintained on computer network servers at each major unit location. Reservists and civilian employees, wherever they are in the world, can access the system by modem or hard-wire connections.

Westover has been chosen as a test site for a super server which will be installed next month, according to MSgt. Jacqueline Davis, the 439th Support Group's chief of information management. "After we're trained, the server will allow us to update the publications — including Westover-specific information — on a daily basis," she said.

For now, Westover personnel can access the publication system (which is updated monthly) through the Local Area Network system.

In addition to saving time, the new system will save money, too. "We will save the reserve more than \$8 million annually in costs associated with posting publications and maintaining binders in functional areas and master libraries," said Lee Brice, assistant chief of the directorate's management division.

A year in review, coming attractions from page 1

site in the Northeast, eventually offering facilities to all government and non-government conferences in the area."

While the conference center's price tag was approximately \$800,000, the cost is only a fraction of the total spent on construction in 1995. Approximately \$5 million was spent rebuilding the Golf taxiway, and other major construction projects included the construction of a new medical training facility, and the replacement of underground storage tanks.

As construction efforts prepared base facilities for an expanded training role, Westover's runways and grounds entertained thousands from throughout the country.

The Dogpatch field training site was the home to the Air Force Reserve's "Patriot Tiger," and "Patriot Medstar." In its seventh year at Westover, Patriot Tiger, an AFRES-wide aerial port field exercise, trained more than 800 reservists during its 5-week summer tour. Tiger's aeromedical counterpart, "Patriot Medstar," drilled medical personnel in front-line evacuation and staging treatment during its summer stay.

Medstar also provided training for local civilian medics in one of the many civilian uses of the base in 1995. "Westover offered very unique training that we couldn't receive anywhere else," said Jack Toomey chief administrative officer of the Metro-Boston Disaster Medical Assistance Team. When Toomey and his group were dispatched to the hurricane-ravaged island of St. Thomas this fall, the lessons learned at Westover became tools they couldn't do without.

According to Lt. Col. Paul Torpey, Northeast Air Station officer, Westover's community involvement picked up speed. "We continued our relationship with the United Service Organization (USO) holding several events including a car show and World War II veterans' dance," said Torpey. The colonel said that more than 300 international teams



AT HOME AND ABROAD — An F-4 Phantom was delivered to Chile in March, compliments of the 439th AW as part of an aircraft trade, top, while at home, bottom, Golf taxiway was completely reconstructed in July.



participated in the U.S. Volleyball Association's championship tournament held here in June.

While groups ranging from cub scouts to Massachusetts State Troopers used Westover — the base, Westover, the people — were buzzing around the world, demonstrating an emerging role as an international partner in joint operations.

"In the late '80s, we changed the whole nature of how we go about preparing for war," said Gen. Ronald R. Fogelman, Air Force Chief of Staff. "People need to understand that. We will always be part of some joint force operation."

Westover reservists worked with their United Nations peacekeeping partners throughout the year hauling humanitarian supplies to the besieged former Yugoslavia.

Crews also hauled humanitarian and strategic cargo throughout North America, South America, Central America, Europe, Africa, Asia and Australia.

"Humanitarian missions offer great training, (sending us with cargo to places we rarely handle) and will probably increase in the future," said Czekanski.

Czekanski said that 1996 will be an extension of the work begun in '95. "We'll continue our focus on training and worldwide missions," he said. "We will also finish the Unit Self Assessment process which will give us a baseline to watch our growth."

Other top items on Westover's 1996 plate include preparations for the Great New England Airshow in August, and an Operational Readiness Inspection, slated for 1997.

SSgt. Vin Blanchard

MSgt. Sandi Michon

Patriot People

Name: Catherine Skalecki
Rank: MSgt.
Age: 32
Address: Rochester, N.H.
Unit: 439th AES
Position: Aeromedical technician
Civilian position: Exercise specialist
Favorite food: Pasta
Years of service: 13
Favorite sport: Running
Favorite hobby: Playing with my son
Ideal vacation: Mountain biking at Moab
Best way to relax: Camping
Preferred entertainment: Winning at cards
Favorite hero: Chuck Norris
Favorite music: Country
Favorite aircraft: C-130
Pet peeve: Whiners
What I would do if I won \$1million: Spend it!



SSgt. Vin Blanchard

MSgt. Catherine Skalecki

Patriot Praises

Promotions

CMSgt. Edwards, Lawrence L.
 SMSgt. Bloom, Frances A.
 SMSgt. Coda, Richard L.
 SMSgt. Marden, Victor M.
 MSgt. Edmonds, Gordon R.
 MSgt. Goodman, Drence L.
 MSgt. Grasso, Gerald A.
 MSgt. Kovaleski, Stephen
 MSgt. Okeefe, Bruce E.
 MSgt. Pierrepont, David C. Jr.
 MSgt. Sheffield, James A.
 MSgt. Swotchak, James H. Jr.
 MSgt. Thompson, Patrick O.
 MSgt. Willis, Charles L.
 TSgt. Avey, Marie R.
 TSgt. Florian, Daniel G.
 TSgt. Golenski, Michael J.
 TSgt. Jones, Rosa D.
 TSgt. Macdonald, Timothy K.
 TSgt. Sullivan, Michael J.
 SSgt. Aktiv, Eric R.
 SSgt. Albano, Cheryl A.
 SSgt. Chmielinski, Wade M.
 SSgt. Crowder, Ronald J.
 SSgt. Flores, Merari
 SSgt. Griffin, Thomas F.
 SSgt. Lavigne, Jennifer A.
 SSgt. Leeds, Lawrence R.
 SSgt. Lessane, Simone N.
 SSgt. Maxam, Donna M.
 SSgt. Moriarty, Sarah A.
 SSgt. Rockwood, Russell J.
 SrA. Bentley, Scott J.
 SrA. Dickinson, James M.
 SrA. Ryan, Edward T.
 SrA. Thomas, Paul R.
 Amn. Daly, Robert W. Jr.
 Amn. Dionne, Theresa B.
 Amn. Francis, Yaa Y.
 Amn. Nealon, Craig T.

Enlistments

SSgt. Majersky, Edward J.
 SSgt. Rauscher, Carl J.
 Sgt. Robbins, Charles E.
 SrA. Howell, Clayton A.
 SrA. Rosati, Joseph A. Jr.
 SrA. Taporco, David A.
 SrA. Werner, Stephan J.
 AIC Aziz, Stephen G.
 AIC Plummer, Michael
 Amn. Beauregard, Brenda L.
 AB Jimenez, Jasmin
 AB Williams, Jabar C.

Reenlistments

MSgt. Biros, Timothy P.
 MSgt. Coda, Richard L.
 MSgt. Crosby, Diane M.
 MSgt. Fioroni, Norman R.
 MSgt. Knutson, Robert N.
 MSgt. Weaver, Timothy L.
 TSgt. Albano, Anthony J.
 TSgt. Clary, Shan L.
 TSgt. Philbrick, Mark E.
 TSgt. Russo, Darlene J.
 SSgt. Allen, Kimberly
 SSgt. Amidan, Frederick kE.



TIME OF HONOR — A lone bugler plays taps at a Veteran's Day ceremony held at the base.

Westover's medical awards

Outstanding AES - greater than 100 people
439th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron
 OutstandingASTS - 100 bed and flights
439th Aeromedical Staging Squadron
 Outstanding Reserve Officer/non-deployable medical
Capt. Robert A. Sousa
 Outstanding Reserve NCO/non-deployable medical
SMSgt. Mark S. Gilyard
 Outstanding Reserve Airman/non-deployable medical
SrA. Marianne S. Healey
 Outstanding Officer/Aeromedical evac unit
Capt. Martha P. Soper
 Outstanding Reserve NCO/Aeromedical evac unit
MSgt. Catherine Skalecki
 Outstanding Reserve Officer/ASTS
Maj. Lenore L. Boris
 Outstanding Reserve NCO/ASTS
TSgt. Carl E. Craft

Much ado about everything

I was watching a news story the other day about some parents who were upset their kids were singing Hebrew songs in school. Others were upset about the Christian songs. Others were upset that they were singing any religious songs at all.

I recently read an article about townspeople who were upset inner city kids were integrated in suburban schools, and participating in suburban school programs — even the holiday ones that are supposed to celebrate good will.

It's ironic that holiday messages of good will and spirit are tainted by the fact that people can't seem to get along.

I consider myself somewhat spoiled (I never thought I'd say

that). I grew up with so many facets of society I find all these differences really interesting. Not bothersome.

My friends, neighbors and schoolmates were black, Puerto Rican, Greek, Italian, English, Irish, Iranian. Many of them were pretty poor. Some of them were pretty well off. It was always fun to go over to their house and see where and how they lived, what they ate, and how they celebrated different things in life. I thought it was pretty cool.

My friends were Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, Buddhist, atheist, evangelical. It was all pretty interesting. It didn't seem to bother anyone. It was kind of neat to learn about different things.

My own family was pretty diverse itself. While my maternal grandmother would regale us with stories of her Pilgrim forefathers and cousin, George Washington, she would be pinching my elbow for using the wrong salad fork. My paternal grandmother, who still doesn't speak a word of English, spent most of her Miami days cooking rice and beans and explaining the family's escape from Communist-held Cuba.

While my maternal grandfather lit the menorah for Hannukah, his wife was lighting the Christmas tree and sitting in her pew at the fairly conservative Congregational church. Down in Miami, the Methodist church was swaying and clapping to the vivacious Spanish hymns and chanting the Spanish-version of Hallelujah. Easter and Passover were pretty much the same way. No one complained about the differences. We were too busy experiencing them.

. SSgt. Christine Mora
Public Affairs Technician

Editorial

Briefs

ESGR address change noted

The address for the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve has been changed. Reservists wishing to contact the committee should write to:

The National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve
1555 Wilson Blvd. Suite 200
Arlington, VA. 22209-2405

Telephone numbers are:
1-800-336-4590
DSN 226-1400
Comm. 1-703-696-1400
Fax 1-703-696-1411

Blood drive at gym during January UTA

A blood drive will be conducted in the base gymnasium Jan. 7 starting at 7 a.m.

According to 1Lt. John J. Ryan, drive coordinator, the goal of the drive is 150 units of blood.

"During the holiday season, the Red Cross always experiences a shortage of donations and they rely heavily on the Westover drive," he said.

Newsline available

Randolph AFB, Texas — Air Force members in the U.S. get the latest personnel news by calling the Air Force Personnel Newsline, based out of the Air Force Personnel Center.

To reach the newsline dial DSN 487-3081 or commercial (210) 652-3081.

The latest edition of the newsline offers information about the Air Force's newest captains, upcoming enlisted assignments overseas, medals for those who participated in humanitarian operations, etc.

January UTA dates
A UTA Jan. 6-7
B UTA Jan. 20-21



SSgt. Christine Mora

Thousands visit base for Commerce '95

by MSgt. Gordon A. Newell

Commerce '95, an opportunity for area businesses to showcase their capabilities and wares under one roof, was held at Westover for the fourth straight year, Nov. 2.

"There is not a building in either city that can provide the space and facilities that Westover does," said Debra Boronski, president of the Chicopee Chamber.

"We are just so grateful that the base and the Galaxy Community Council, have supported us over the years."

This year, 168 exhibitors, the largest number ever, took part, said Doris Ransford, president of the Greater Holyoke Chamber of Commerce which co-sponsors the show.

The day's activities were kicked off when more than 500 people attended a breakfast held in the DC hangar Lt. Gov.

Paul Cellucci was the keynote speaker.

Following the breakfast, activities moved to the Base Hangar where the exhibitions were set up.

According to Boronski, more than 5,000 people attended the show.

"This is our fifth year and each time it's gotten bigger and better," she said. "We're already thinking about year."

PATRIOT



439th AW/PA
WESTOVER AIR RESERVE BASE
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